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0557-4877-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE APPLICATION OF:

MAKOTO MIYAGI

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/471,287

FILED: DECEMBER 23, 1999

FOR: SCREENING METHOD AND A

SCREENING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to an first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 8, line 3, delete "not the" (first occurrence).

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.